

REMARKS

The subject application is a U.S. national phase application under 35 U.S.C. 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/015692. Claims 1-19 are pending, with claims 1, 7 and 15 being in independent form. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 6, 10-14, 17 and 19 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies therein.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicant's undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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